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## PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

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## SCPHD Can Help Parents Immunize Their Children For Little Cost This Back to School Season

TWIN FALLS-Back to school season is here, time for parents to gather supplies and backpacks. It's also the perfect time to make sure your children are up-to-date on their immunizations. August is National Immunization Awareness month, and South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) strongly encourages parents to take this opportunity to keep their children better protected with up-to-date immunizations in preparation for daycare, back to school, and college.

"When children are not immunized, they are at increased risk and can spread diseases to others in their classrooms and community. School age children are required by the state of Idaho to be immunized," said Lisa Klamm, SCPHD Immunization Program Coordinator. "The great news is that SCPHD is a Vaccines for Children (VFC) participant and can help parents immunize their children for little cost. The vaccine is free, while we only charge an administration fee, which varies depending on how many immunizations are administered."

The VFC program provides free vaccines to Idaho children through participating medical providers. To save money parents should always make sure they are using a VFC provider.

Parents can make an appointment by calling the SCPHD clinic in their area. An appointment is required in order to streamline services and reduce waiting times. It is also critical to bring each child's immunization record to identify what they've had or still need. Immunizations are available by appointment at SCPHD offices in:

• Bellevue: (208) 788-4335

• Gooding: (208) 934-4477

• Jerome: (208) 324-8838

• Mini-Cassia: (208) 678-8221

• Twin Falls: (208) 737-5966

To find out more information on clinic schedules, administration fees, and immunization requirements for schools visit <a href="mailto:phd5.idaho.gov">phd5.idaho.gov</a>. To find a medical provider that participates in the Idaho Immunizations Program, visit <a href="mailto:phd5.idaho.gov/VFC">phd5.idaho.gov/VFC</a>.

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